GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Social Welfare Department - Violation of norms of guidelines -/ instructions for installation of LPG Gas connections in the Social Welfare Hostels in East Godavari District – Initiation of Departmental action against Sri A.V.Ramana Chari, former Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari District (now retired) – Imposing the punishment of 5% cut in pension for 5 years besides recovery of Rs.8.58 lakhs loss caused to the Government - Orders – Issued.

SOCIAL WELFARE (SER.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No.399

Dated:1-6-2009 Read the following:-

- 1) From the Commissioner of Social Welfare, Hyderabad, Letter Lr.Rc.No.A2/4755/2000, dt. 30-5-2000.
- 2) G.O.Rt.No.191, S.W. (Ser.I(1)) Deptt. Dt. 9-4-2002.
- 3) Explanation dt. 22-5-2002 from Sri A.V.Ramanachari, Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari District.
- 4) G.O.Rt.No.522, S.W. (Ser.I) Deptt. dt. 7-10-2002.
- 5) G.O.Rt.No.22, S.W. (Ser.I(1)) Deptt. Dt. 16-1-2003.
- 6) From Sri K.Chandrasekhara Rao, Addl. Director (SW) & Enquiry Officer Lr.Rc.No.1/Addl.Director, dt. 10-7-2003.
- 7) Govt. Memo.No.10289/S.W. (Ser.II(1)/2000-12, dt.24-9-2003
- 8) Explanation from Sri A.V.Ramana CharI, Deputy Director (SW). dt. 17-3-2004.
- 9) Letter No. 10289/SW.Ser.II(1)/2000-27, dt. 22-10-2007.
- 10) From the Secretary, APPSC., Hyderabad Letter No. 1593/ RT-I/1/2007, dt. 15-11-2007.
- 11) Memo.No.10289/SW.Ser.II(1)/2000-29, dt. 21-8-2008.
- 12) Explanation from Sri A.V.Ramana CharI, Retired Deputy Director (SW) dated 13-10-2008.
- 13) Govt. Letter No.10289/SW.Ser.II(1)/2000-30, dt. 9-3-2009
- 14) From the Secretary, APPSC., Hyderabad Letter No.385/RT-I/2/2009, dated 25-4-2009.

ORDER:

The Commissioner of Social Welfare, Hyderabad in his letter 1^{st} read above has brought to the notice of the Government that Sri A.V. Ramanachari, the then Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari District has violated norms / guidelines / instructions for installation of L.P.G. Gas connections in the Social Welfare Hostels issued by the Government from time to time during the years 1997-98, which caused loss to the Government exchequer.

2. After considering the material and records available, the Government have framed charges against Sri A.V.Ramanachari, Deputy Director (SW) in the G.O. 2^{nd} read above and obtained his explanation vide reference 3^{rd} read above on the charges framed against him.

- 3. As the explanation submitted by the Charged Officer is not convincing, orders have been issued in the G.O. 5th read above, appointing Sri K.Chandrasekhar Rao, Addl. Director (SW), Office of the Commissioner of Social Welfare, Hyderabad as an Enquiry Officer under Rule 20 of APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991 to enquire into the charges framed against Sri A.V.Ramanachari, former Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari District and to submit the Enquiry Report to Government. The Enquiry Officer has conducted enquiry and submitted his enquiry report to the Government vide reference 6th read above.
- 4. The Enquiry Officer in his report has observed that in respect of Charge No.1, there is no misleading note submitted by the Accused Officer to the Joint Collector, East Godavari with selfish motives and with a malafide intention as alleged and hence the charge is held not proved. In respect of Charge No.II, installation of gas stoves in Social Welfare Hostels is against the orders of the Government on simpler cost effective systems, hence the charge is held proved.
- Government have examined the explanation Sri A.V.Ramanachari and findings of the Enquiry Officer and observed that according to guidelines issued by the Commissioner of Social Welfare in Cir.No.C1/10184/97 dt. 25-2-1998, the cost of the unit should be Rs.8,000/- . The Charged Officer himself issued work order without approval of the Chairman, Purchase Committee / Joint Collector on 13-11-1999 on M/s Lakshmi Industrial & Kitchen Gas Enterprises, Guntur. The Joint Collector, East Godavari therefore, directed the firm to stop the work pending receipt of permission from the Commissioner of Social Welfare for installation of gas stoves at Rs.30,000/-. The Commissioner of Social Welfare in turn requested the Joint Collector, East Godavari to adopt the rate of Rs.8,000/- as per the guidelines. Therefore, the firm obtained orders of High Court to execute the work already entrusted by the Charged Officer. As a result of this misconduct on the part of the Accused Officer, there was excess expenditure of Rs. 8,58,000/- on this count and thus both charges are held substantiated. Therefore the Government have differed with the findings of the Enquiry Officer under Rule 21 of A.P. Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991 in respect The Government have provisionally decided to of Charge No.1. impose the punishment of cut in pension equivalent to withholding three annual grade increments with cumulative effect besides recovery of Rs.8.58 lakhs loss caused to the Government.
- 6. In response Sri A.V.Ramanachari, Deputy Director (SW) (Retired) has submitted his explanation vide reference $12t^h$ read above and requested the Government to exonerate him and to drop the charges framed against him.
- 7. The Government have examined the explanation to the Show Cause Notice submitted by the Delinquent Officer and held that the explanation is not convincing. Therefore, the Government have decided to impose a cut equivalent to withholding three annual grade increments with cumulative effect in the pension and pensionary benefits besides recovery of Rs.8.58 lakhs on Sri A.V.Ramanachari, former Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari District (now retired) under A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

- 8. In the letter 13th read above, the A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad has been addressed in the matter for its concurrence. The A.P. Public Service Commission vide its letter 14th read above, has advised the Government to impose 5% cut in pension for 5 (five) years; besides recovery of the misappropriated amount of Rs.8.58 lakhs from the pension of Sri A.V.Ramanachari, formerly Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari (now retired).
- 9. The Government have examined the matter taking into consideration the advice of the A.P. Public Service Commission and hereby order to impose the penalty of 5% (five percent) cut in pension for 5 (five) years; besides recovery of the loss of Rs.8.58 lakhs (Rupees Eight lakhs fifty eight thousands only) caused to the Government from the pension/pensionary benefits of Sri A.V. Ramanachari, formerly Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari (now retired).
- 10. The Commissioner of Social Welfare, A.P. Hyderabad is requested to take action accordingly and furnish the compliance report to the Government.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

V.NAGI REDDY, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri A.V.Ramanachari, formerly Deputy Director (SW), East Godavari (now retired), HIG Duplex House 381, Housing Board Colony, Bhavanipuram, Vijayawada-12 (through the Commissioner of Social Welfare, A.P.Hyderabad)

The Commissioner of Social Welfare, A.P.Hyderabad.

The Accountant General (A&E), A.P. Hyderabad.

The Deputy Accountant General (Pensions), I/o A.G.A.P. Hyderabad.

Copy to the Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Secretary to the Vigilance Commissioner, A.P. Vigilance Commission, Hyderabad.

// FORWARDED::BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER